AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 U.S. Patent Application No. 10/809,855

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Please remove Figure 3 and replace with Replacement Figure 3A.

Please insert New Figure 3B.

Please remove Figure 4 and replace with Replacement Figure 4.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

New Sheet

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 are all the claims pending in the application. By the present amendment, claim 1 is amended. No new matter is presented by the amendment.

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the Drawings, and rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph and under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicant addresses each of the outstanding objections and rejections as follows.

Objections to the Drawings

The Examiner objected to the Drawings because it is allegedly unclear how the second cover is retained by the retainers since it is difficult to see the retainers and to understand the structure clearly. In response, Applicant notes that the sub cover 7 should be associated with the claimed second cover body, while the intermediate cover 5 corresponds to the claimed third cover body. Further, the specification as filed mentions that a retaining projection 14 (i.e., the claimed "retainer") is formed integrally within each of the protruded portions 12, which is to be engaged with an associated engagement projection 13 of sub cover 7 (see page 6, lines 6-9). The engagement projection 13 is shown in previously existing Figure 3.

Further, Applicant presents new Figure 3B for purposes of clarification and replaces existing Figure 3 with Replacement Figure 3A. Figure 3B shows the engagement between the engagement projection 13 and the retaining projection 14 in more detail. The new figure is supported by the specification at page 6, lines 16-25, page 7, lines 17-22, and page 8, lines 12-17, as well as elsewhere in the specification.

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Applicant submits that Replacement Figure 3B clarifies the structure of the protruded portions in relation to the projections of the intermediate cover and overcomes the Examiner's objection. Further, the specification is amended to account for the amendments to the drawings. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is requested.

Further, the Examiner objected to Figure 4 because it should be designated as prior art.

In response, Applicant has amended Figure 4 to include the prior art designation, and withdrawal of the objection is requested.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as allegedly failing to comply with the enablement requirement. More specifically, the Examiner states that is not clear how projection 20 simply fitted into grooves (referring to protruded portion 12) can provide waterproof when there is not a watertight fit between the projection and the grooves.

In response, Applicant traverses this rejection because waterproofing, or a water-tight seal is not specifically required by the claims. Thus, the Examiner's rejection is without merit. Further, the claim 1, as amended, defines the plurality of projections of the third cover body as being provided on an outer periphery thereof, and further, the third cover body as being disposed such that each of the projections is fitted into the groove so as to *partition* the upper region of the first space from the through hole. Moreover, Applicant submits that the precise dimensions of the projections and the groove and the tolerances with which one fits within the other to achieve a "waterproof effect" are not required by the claim. Additionally, Applicant submits that effect of the structure defined by claim 1 would be readily apparent to one of skill in the art given the

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disclosure in the specification. (see page 8, lines 3-18, which describes the partitioning of the protruded portions 14 by the projection 20).

In addition, the Examiner indicated that the drawings do not show any cover that covers the upper opening while the projections are fitted in the groove. In response, Applicant submits that Figure 3A (formerly Figure 3) shows sub cover 7 as covering the main cover 2 (i.e., the box body), which is described in the specification at pages 5-6.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that this ground of rejection is improper. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, rejection of claims 1-3 is requested.

Further, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite because it is not clear how the projection fitting into the groove formed by the protruded portions of the first cover body can partition the first space from the through hole.

In response, Applicant has amended claim 1 to clarify that the first space comprises an upper region located between the second cover body and the third cover body, and a lower region located below the third cover body. Further, amended claim 1 clarifies that the projections partition the upper region of the first space from the through hole. Such partitioning is described in the specification at pages 8-9 and shown by Figures 1-3B. Applicant submits that claim 1, as amended, clarifies the partitioning of the first space. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 112, 2nd paragraph, rejection.

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Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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